

Appl. No. 10/817,588
Response to Office Action mailed February 9, 2006

Atty Dkt. No. 114216-011

REMARKS

The final Office Action was issued on pending claims 6 and 8-11. Claims 6, 8 and 9 stand rejected and claims 10 and 11 were objected to. In this Response, claim 6 has been amended, claims 12-14 have been added, and claim 10 has been cancelled. Thus, claims 6, 8, 9 and 11-14 are pending in the application.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call Applicants' Representative to discuss any issues with this application.

Allowable Claims

At paragraph 3 of the Office Action, claims 10 and 11 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but noted as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for the notice of allowable claims.

In response, claim 6 has been amended to include allowable claim 10 and claim 10 has been cancelled without prejudice. Also, new claim 12 has been added which corresponds to claim 11 rewritten in independent form including claim 6. New claim 13 depends from claim 12 and corresponds to claim 8. New claim 14 depends from claim 12 and corresponds to claim 9. Thus, Applicants submit all of the pending claims, claims 6, 8, 9 and 11-14 are allowable.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102

At paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claims 6, 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Chao (US 2003/0145439 A1). Although applicants respectfully disagree, the claims have been amended to be in condition for allowance as discussed above. Thus, Applicants submit that the rejections should be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance and request a Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

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